

B1

switch control panel, mounted on the upper or side surface of an armrest. The thin membrane that covers the individual buttons prevents introduction of powders, fluids, oils or the like, into the switches while allowing independent setting of the controls. Other control button configurations are contemplated including individual molded buttons. Alternatively, the control panel may be connected to the cushion through a cord. In such case, the cushion may include a pocket for stowing the control panel, or the control panel may be releasably mounted to the cushion by hook-and-loop fasteners of the like.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B2

-- Padded armrests 17 and 18 may extend outwardly from opposite corners at the bottom of the back portion 12 substantially perpendicular to the rear surface. Armrest 18 may include a control panel 25. As shown in FIG. 3, the control panel 25 may be covered with a thin flexible membrane 79 covering a plurality of touch sensitive control buttons/actuators or switches, including power on/off button 35, power on indicator light 36, speed setting control button or buttons (FIG. 4) 37, LED speed indicators 38, light on/off switch 39 for altering the on/off status of the lamp 20, and massage program buttons 40a, b for adjusting the pulsating transducers or massage motors located in the bed lounge back and for setting massage sensation and intensity of the massaging elements. The thin tactile membrane covering the full control panel may help keep massage oils, powder, fluids, or the like from gumming up the buttons or otherwise entering the cushion itself. This can make cleaning easier and provide longer operational life.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B3

--An over-the-shoulder lamp 20 may extend from the rear of the back portion 12 of the cushion 10 on a flexible arm 21. Alternatively, the lamp 20 may extend from the front surface or a side surface of the cushion. Lamp 20 and arm 21 may be pivotably connectable at the rear of the cushion 10 to a lamp support housing (not shown) through which an electrical communication may be made and the lamp 20 can be turned off or on. The flexible arm 21 may enable the user to adjust the angle and position of lamp 20. The mass and materials forming the cushion may provide sufficient vibration attenuation and isolation to protect the filaments of a light bulb in the reading lamp.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7, beginning at page 6, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B4

--Referring to FIGS. 5-9, a cushion 110 comprises a padded back portion 112 including padded head rest portion 113 and padded lower back support portion 114 contoured so as to be anatomically comfortable for the user. The back portion may comprise a contoured forward surface and a generally planar rear surface 180, the surfaces separated by a padded interior. Alternatively, the contoured front surface and the planar rear surface may be separated by an inflatable bladder. The firmness of the bladder may be user adjustable. The bladder may be filled by a pump located inside or outside of the bed cushion. A movable massage cushion 115 may be attached to the cushion 110 in the area of the lower back support portion 114 by means of a hook-and-loop fastener system wherein, e.g. a hook-type strip 223 arranged on tab 116 extending from the movable massaging cushion 115. Hook type strip engages with loops on the fabric of the back, or with loop strips mounted on the back. Pulsating transducers or massage motors arranged within the massaging cushion 115 may provide a massage. At the option of the user, by disengaging hook-strip 223, massage cushion 115 may be moved to therapeutically

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Amendment A

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B4
deliver massage to other areas of the body, the back or neck, for example, or may be used simply as a pillow. If desired, massage cushion 115 may be unplugged from and detached entirely from the cushion 110. Power to the cushion 110 may be provided by electricity through AC cord and plug connection 130 and 131 respectively or by a rechargeable battery 181 housed within the cushion 110 and chargeable through a connection on the cushion (not shown). Power to the massaging cushion 115 may be provided by extendable power cord 221 and plug 222 which can be connected to an outlet (not shown) located on the cushion 110, for example on the back portion 112 or on an armrest 117 or 118.--

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9, beginning at page 8, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B5
--As shown in FIG. 6, the back portion 112 of the cushion 110 is capable of being reclined. The back portion 112 can be adjusted to a variety of angles relative to the armrests 117 and 118. The back portion and the armrest can be locked in a desired position with a knob 135. The armrests 117 and 118 may be foldable into an upright position along side the back portion 112. Alternatively, the armrest may be removable attached to the back portion with a hook and loop type fasteners. To adjust the angle, the user simply detaches the armrests and then reattaches them to the back portion at a different angle, shown by adjusted back portion 112.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claim 15, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 5 and 27-39 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A cushion for supporting a person in a sitting position, comprising:
a back portion comprising a contoured forward surface and a generally planar rear surface, the surfaces separated by a padded interior;

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